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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC AWARDS GREEN FLEETS GRANT TO CLEAN FUELS OHIO

(Columbus – November 10, 2009) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) announces a new partnership with the non-profit organization Clean Fuels Ohio to work with central Ohio fleets to implement green policies, install emission-reduction technologies, convert to cleaner fuels, and implement other measures to reduce pollution and improve performance.

MORPC allocated \$135,000 of federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funding to Clean Fuels Ohio. Clean Fuels Ohio will aid MORPC's local government members, Central Ohio Green Pact supporters, school districts and interested private fleets in assessing their fleets, identifying solutions to improve their fleets' environmental performance, and assisting with state and federal grant applications.

"Regions with cleaner air attract and retain businesses and residents, and collaborating with proven partners like Clean Fuels Ohio will make our region's fleets greener so we can all breathe easier," said MORPC Center for Energy & Environment Director Jerry Tinianow.

Diesel exhaust is a leading source of particle pollution, an air pollutant that is a threat to public health. Older diesel engines are one of the sources holding the region back from meeting federal particle pollution standards in four central Ohio counties—Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin and Licking. According to the Ohio Environmental Protection agency, nearly 20 percent of central Ohio's particle pollution comes from diesel engines.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to assist MORPC members and others with developing green fleet policies and to help central Ohio become a leader in green fleet initiatives," said Clean Fuels Ohio Executive Director Sam Spofforth.

MORPC is a voluntary association of 47 local governments in central Ohio serving the region through planning, direct service, public policy and innovative programming and intergovernmental coordinating services in the areas of transportation, land use, energy conservation, the environment and housing. MORPC is currently celebrating its 40th Anniversary and its efforts to build a better central Ohio region.

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Working to Build a Better Region

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